(b) if so-, what are main decisions US has taken to improve submarines for Indian Navy;

(c) whether any agreement in this regard has been reached between the two countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) to what extent US Navy has been able to aid Indian submarines which were in distress; and

(f) to what extent this will help to improve the capability and shortcomings of Indian Naval forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (f) India and US have agreed to reach an agreement for American assistance for Indian Naval Submarines which are in distress to facilitate rescue of crew members from a disabled submarine. There are no plans to procure submarine rescue vehilces from US.

The agreement is only restricted to utilising the US Navy's Global Submarine Rescue Flyaway Kit to facilitate rescue of personnel from disabled submarines and not for augmenting the capability of the existing submarines in the Indian Navy.

No such situation has arisen, where the need existed to actually utilize the US Navy's Global Flyaway Rescue Kit for submarine rescue operation.

Corruption in Armed Forces

†4381. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the news of increasing corruption in all the three wings of armed forces has tarnished its image;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to the above said reasons the

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

internal bickerings among officers and personnels is being dragged into various courts;

(c) the details of such cases being dragged in different courts of the country; and

(d) whether Government are considering any comprehensive plan to prevent corruption and for bringing transparency in the working of the armed forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Government have effective institutional mechanism to control corruption, which are imlemented through the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of the Ministry of Defence. There is a well defined Procurement Procedure with in-built checks and balances. Wherever Government has apprehensions about a particular case, it is promptly referred to the CBI. 23 cases of the report of Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) relating to report 7A of 2001 have been referred for investigation to the CBI. Similarly the 14 cases under discussion of the Justice Phukan Commission have been referred for investigation of the CBI. In case any wrong doing is proved, action will be taken by Government.

Production of BrahMos Missiles

4382. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has placed any orders for the BrahMos;

(b) if so, the details of such orders;

(c) whether Government had identified its vessels in which the BrahMos missiles would be fitted;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) how many industries in India are taking part in the production of BrahMos missiles; and